MEETING OF FPT MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Virtual Meeting
February 23-24, 2022

A. Welcome and Introductions

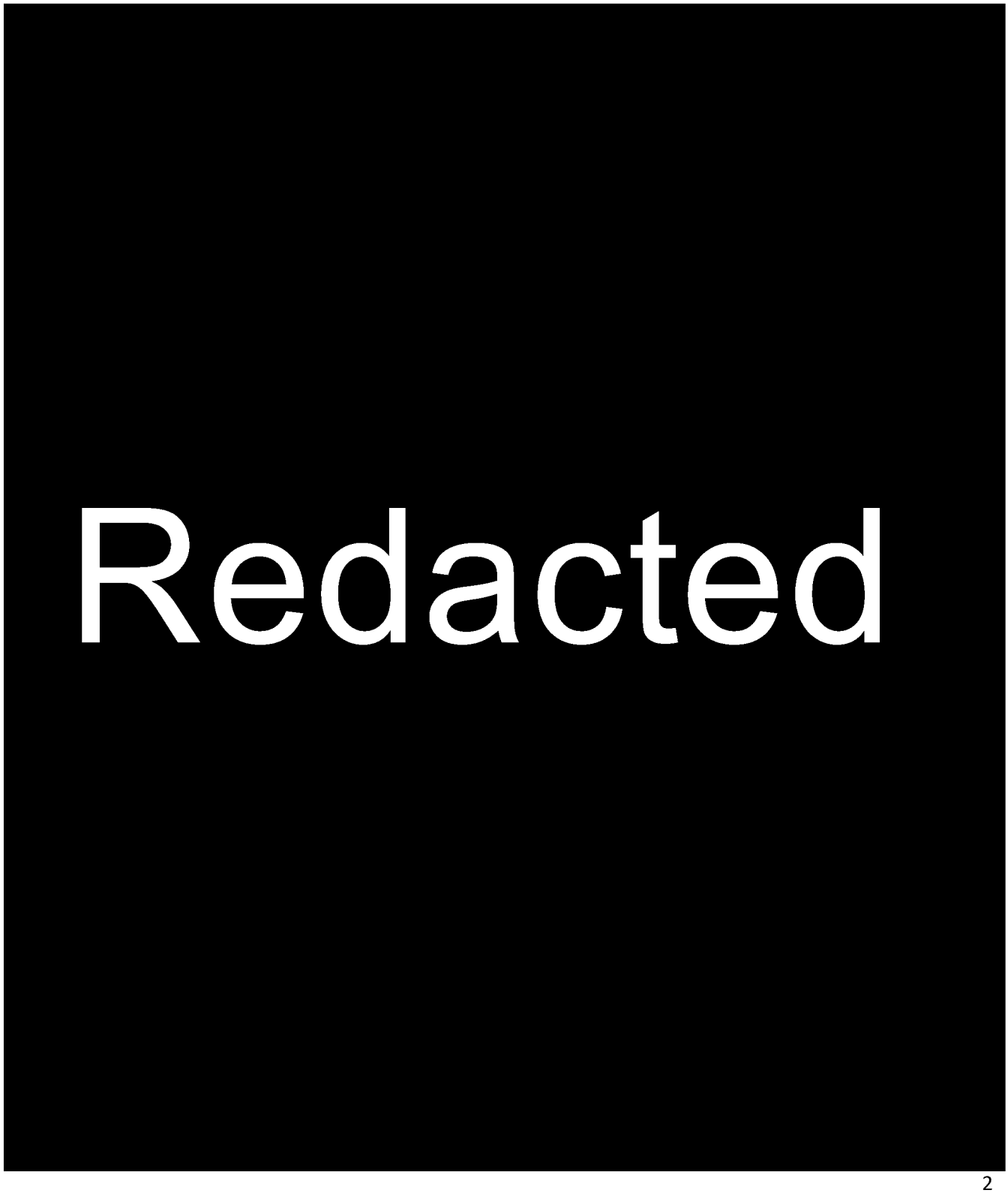
Some kind of emergency has come up and Minister Wyant likely will not be able to attend the FPT meeting as planned today.

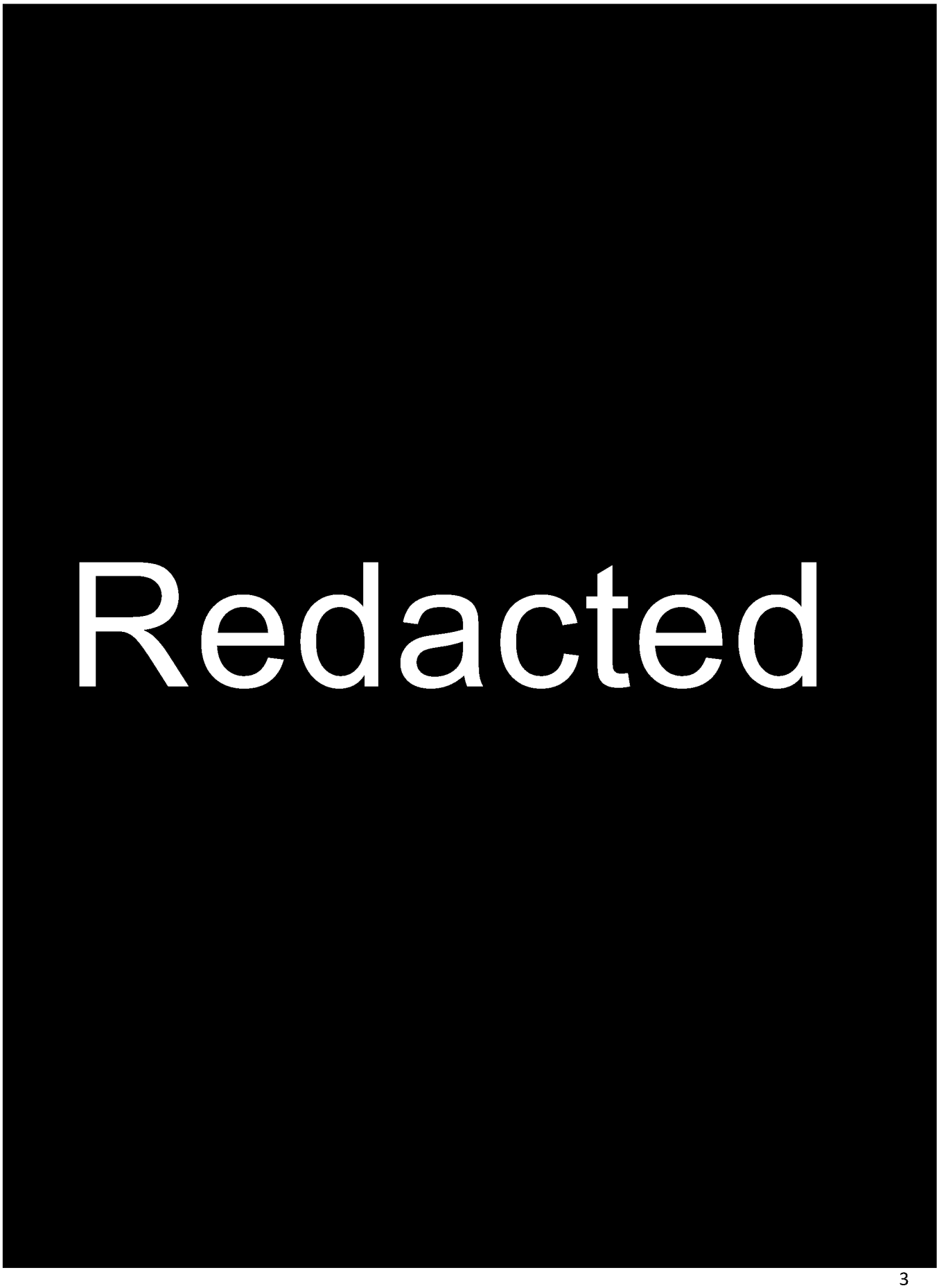
B. **Occupations and Blockades update** (Mendicino)

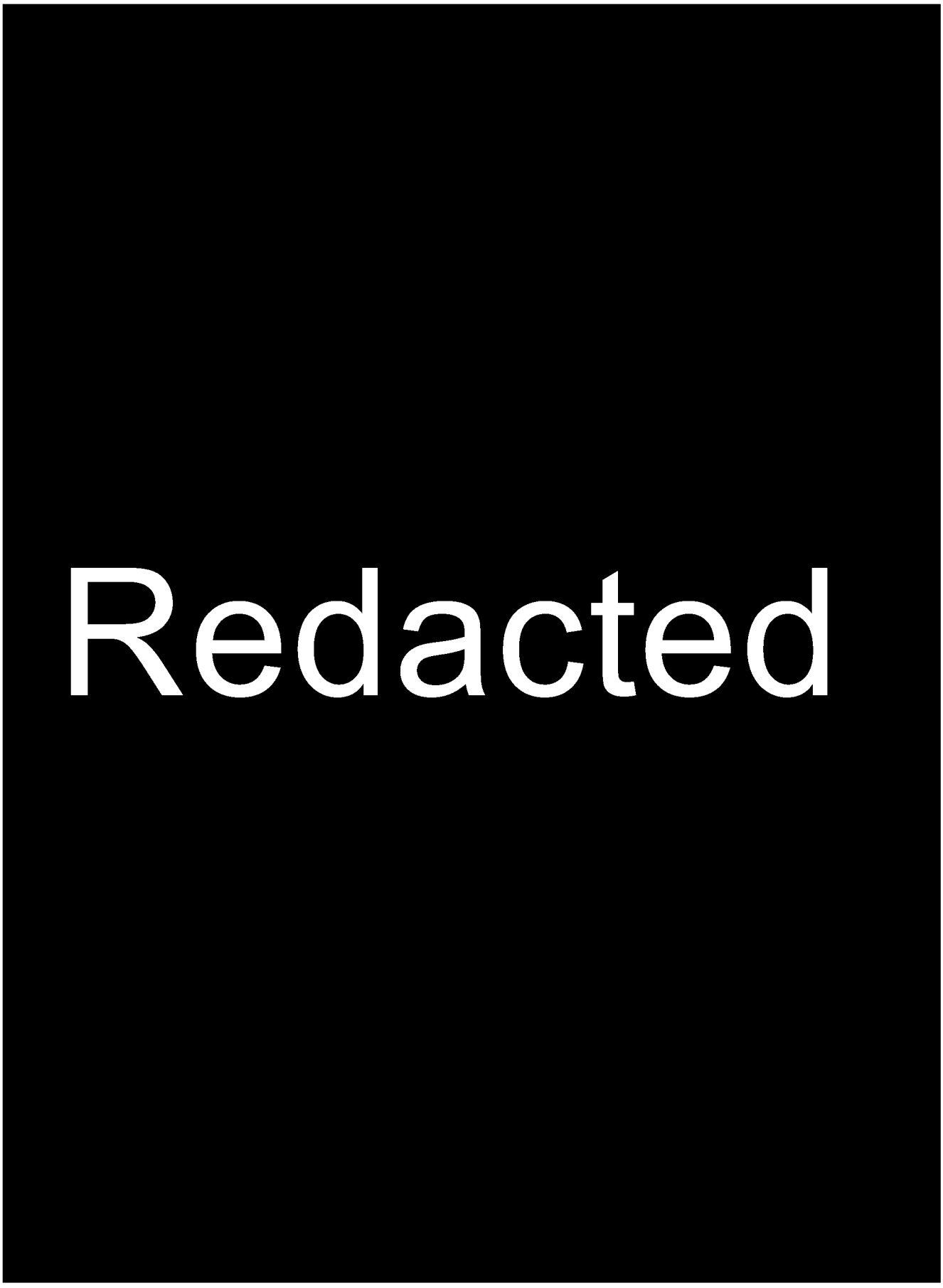
- Blockades started about a month ago with significant and negative impact on security and sovereignty and at our borders. Got a grasp of the risks to public safety and security and took decision to invoke Emergencies Act. Not first or second choices, but especially at ports of entry and in Ottawa. On advice from law enforcement, we had to create new tools under EA and in time-limited, concentrated way.
- Law enforcement could designate no-go zones near critical infrastructure, deploy RCMP, commandeer equipment like tow trucks, set traffic flow and use financial infrastructure to freeze accounts. Charter compliant actions. Dramatic improvement at borders and in Ottawa. Continue to assess impact on on-going basis and will only be in place as long as necessary.
- We didn't want to impose the EA.
- We are here to help PTs with law enforcement tools and resources for use when needed.
- Looking at what is driving blockades, tactics employed. Similarity in targets…borders, legislatures and closely tied together by their timing. Rhetoric calling for anti-govt sentiment, erosion of democratic institutions and overthrow of govt.
- Lots of lessons to be taken. Looking forward in working with you as we go onward.
- QC Levesque: legal obligation to consult with PTs hasn't been satisfied by the Feb 14 meeting that took place. We cannot be consulted on a decision already made. QC is not convinced that the threats presented warrant national emergency. We have our own resources and measures to deal with issues here. Bitter taste in QC's mouths based on previous use of WMA and are concerned about the precedent that this sets. Don't want it used in QC.
- MB Goertzen: Not unsympathetic to position Canada was in, difficult situation. MB was different, although also had blockade at border and at legislature. Both negotiated away. Our police services could deal with situation via provincial legislation, bylaws and Criminal Code. Opposed to its use. Agree with QC about the consultation lack and think a regional application vs a national one would have been better. Didn't meet should hold or consultation requirement.
- AB Savage: Agree with what was said. Did use additional RCMP resources from BC (40 officers) to resolve Coutts blockade. Used provincial tools and CC. did have issues with tow trucks but purchased our own for use. Didn't need federal assistance. EA not necessary.
- NS Johns: Defer to people in situation in Ottawa. Used provincial act and tickets to avoid people from stopping. Was disappointed in how policing was taken from the province with officers redeployed to Ottawa. Vacancies had already left us short. Need more consultation first.
- Farnworth BC: We saw what was happening in Ottawa. Fine with consultation that took place and agreed with imposition. Economic hostage taking in Windsor needed to be dealt with. Not a protest but an occupation. Action was justified. We had our problems here but could handle it ourselves. Concerned about spillover from south of us.
- Eby BC: Watched with interest use of FINTRAC more aggressively and would like to see it used for money laundering, gang crime and real estate situations etc. Not just an info collector, but to use it to freeze and seize funds. Encourage its use in these other contexts.

SAS00000057.0001

- Lametti: Thanks for these concerns. Believed that consultation requirement was met and am prepared to defend how it was done. Consultation included all other interactions with police, officials and ministers. AB and MB concerns weren't univocal. Don't necessarily share federalism views of QC. Felt only supplementing police powers, not taking them away from PTs. We are evaluating duration of EA in real time and hope it will be ended sooner than later. Also, consultation has continued since EA imposed and there will be more should situation warrant.

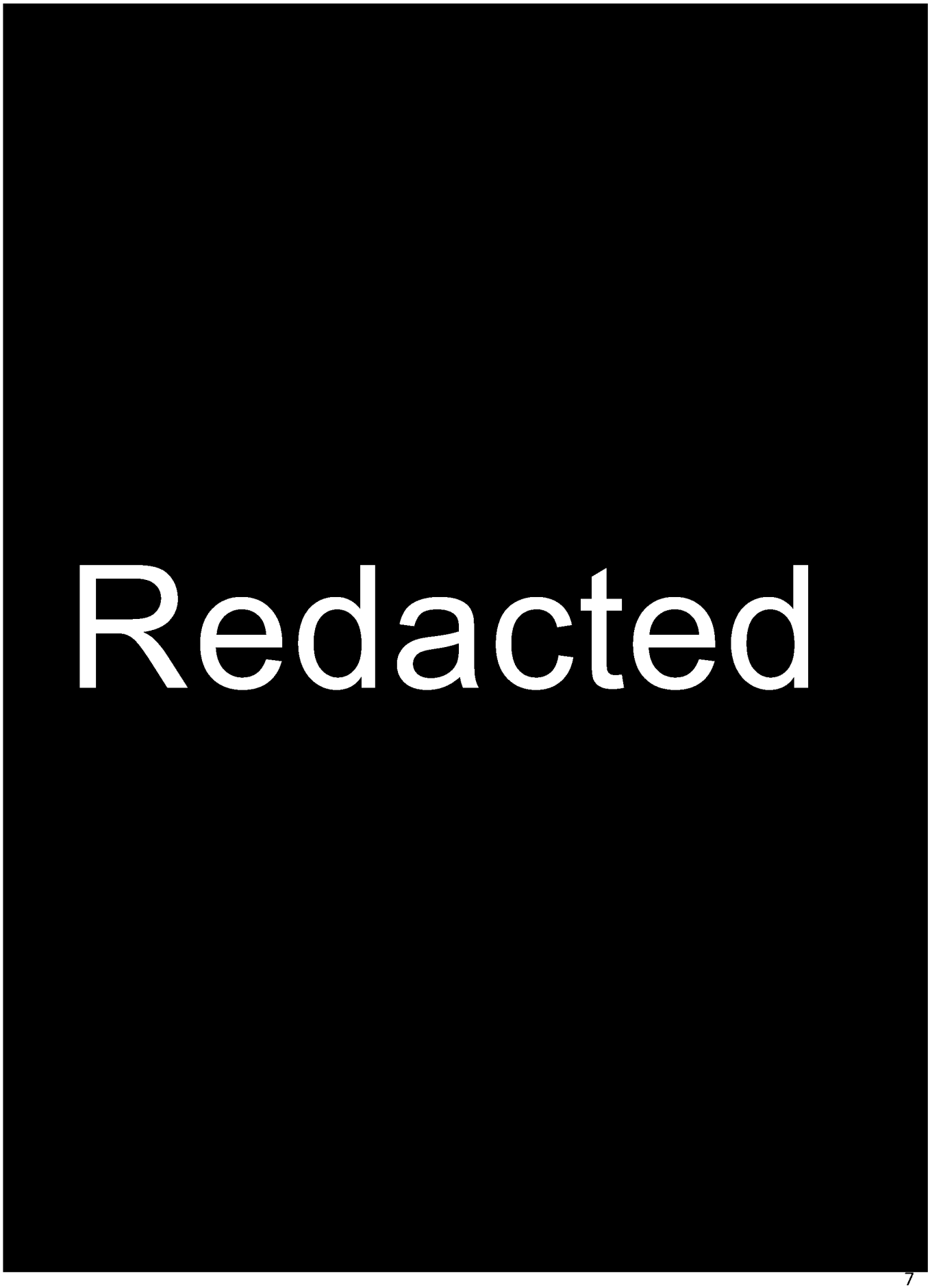



Redacted


Redacted

Redacted

Redacted


Redacted

Redacted

Redacted

Redacted

Redacted